

**FLORHAM PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Special Services**  
**235 Brooklake Road Florham Park, NJ 07932**  
*Encourage, Empower, Embrace Each Child's Individuality*



**DR. STEVEN G. CAPONEGRO**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

**JANE STEFFEN**  
**Director of Special Services**

Dear Florham Park Families,

It has been a long road since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to think of you and are working hard to prepare for the return to in-person instruction on September 14th. As with all elements of this global COVID-19 pandemic, our community will be stronger if we work together and have each other's backs. We will need your help to make this transition as smooth as possible.

Some things to keep in mind as we return to school:

- As in previous years, all children who complain of feeling ill should not attend school.
- As in previous years, all children with a fever of 100\* or higher should not attend school.
- As in previous years, all students with signs and symptoms of illness, including a fever of 100\* or higher will be sent home.
- Students seen in the nurses' office for illness who demonstrate signs and symptoms of illness will be isolated in a specially designed area with appropriate supervision as they await pick up.
- Given the circumstances, please be sure to pick up your student promptly should we call you. You may want to consider identifying a back-up person for pick up and ensuring their name is provided to the school.
- Students who have had a fever should not return to school until they have gone 24 hours without a fever without the use of fever reducing medication
- Anyone who suspects they are ill with COVID-19 and/or received a COVID-19 test should not attend or visit school while awaiting test results.
- If your child or a member of your family has been diagnosed with COVID-19, please follow CDC's guidelines and keep your child at home until the criteria to discontinue home isolation have been met.
- All close contacts of individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19 must undergo a 14-day quarantine period. This is because it can take up to 14 days for the symptoms to appear in exposed individuals and individuals can spread the disease to others for several days before they know they are sick. **Following this is essential for the health and safety of our school community because the infectious period for COVID-19 starts 2 days before signs and symptoms of illness appear and people are MOST infectious the first day of their symptoms.** For more information, please review this guidance: [When You Can be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had COVID-19](#)
- If your child has travelled to a state on the quarantine list, they may not return to school until after the mandatory quarantine period has ended.

It is also important for us to maintain our health during this time. State and local regulations regarding student immunization are still in effect and doctor's offices are providing immunizations on schedule. **Flu vaccinations are highly recommended for all people this year and have become available at local providers. Flu vaccinations are required for all preschool students.** We highly recommend getting a flu shot. See more information about flu shots here: [CDC: A Strong Defense Against Flu: Get Vaccinated!](#)

Please continue to prepare and support your child in properly wearing a face covering, social distancing, and hand hygiene. Here are some tips and additional resources to help to help you prepare for the safe return to school:

- **Send your child to school with an extra clean face covering each day:** We want to be sure that all of our students are comfortable and have a clean face covering.

**FLORHAM PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Special Services**  
**235 Brooklake Road Florham Park, NJ 07932**  
*Encourage, Empower, Embrace Each Child's Individuality*



**DR. STEVEN G. CAPONEGRO**  
Superintendent of Schools

**JANE STEFFEN**  
Director of Special Services

- 
- **Practice making sure that the face covering should cover both the mouth and the nose:** COVID-19 is a respiratory virus, which means it affects the breathing systems in the body. When you breathe out of your nose and mouth, or talk, cough, sneeze, or raise your voice, small respiratory droplets are released. Wearing a face covering prevents the respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people. Face coverings must cover both the nose and the mouth in order to be effective. Covering both the nose and mouth is essential, especially since the coronavirus infects the cells in the nose much more easily than those in the throat and lungs.
    - [How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Cloth Face Covering](#)
    - [Getting Your Child to Wear a Face Mask](#)
    - [Wearing a Mask Social Narrative.pdf](#)
  - **Practice proper handwashing:** Hand washing always has been and remains one of the most important things we can do to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. Still, all of us-- young and old-- need reminders on how to do it appropriately. 80% of infectious diseases are transmitted through touch. Next to vaccination, the most important thing you can do to protect you and your family's health is to wash your hands frequently. Before the return to school, please practice and reinforce good handwashing practices with your child.
    - [When and How to Wash Your Hands | Handwashing](#)
  - **Practice social distancing:** Throughout our buildings, spaces have been redesigned to allow for appropriate space between students. Additionally, rules will be in place to encourage physical distancing from others. Please continue to practice social distancing with your child; it may help to measure a six-foot distance and show them how far they should be from others. You can also practice this at home to enforce the need for space by pretending we each have our own 'bubble' around us.
    - [Social Distancing: Keep a Safe Distance to Slow the Spread](#)
  - **Speak with your child about the return to school to prepare them for both the changes in day to day operations (face coverings, etc.) and address their concerns about the return.**
    - [Preparing Children to Go Back to School During COVID-19](#)
    - [Helping Kids Who Worry About Returning to Activities During COVID-19](#)
    - [Helping Children Cope With Changes Resulting From COVID-19](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact your building nurse if you have any questions! We are excited to see our students again and our number one priority is to safeguard the health and safety of everyone in our school community.

Thank you,

Marguerite Aromando, BSN, RN, CSN-NJ  
Brooklake School Nurse  
973-822-3888, ext. 2

Kristen Castellano, BSN, RN, CSN-NJ  
Briarwood School Nurse  
973-822-3884

Marian Kentner, RN, M. Ed, CSN-NJ  
Ridgedale Middle School Nurse  
973-822-3855, ext. 3

Nicole Takla RN, MA  
Substitute Nurse